

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

MS Information Security

Riphah Institute of Systems Engineering (RISE)

Riphah International University (RIU)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is RISE?

RISE stands for Riphah Institute of Systems Engineering. It is developed as a center of excellence innovative systems research and development. The institute carries out industrial research, development, trainings and consultancy on cutting-edge technology.

2. Where is RISE located?

RISE campus is conveniently located in F-6/1 sector of Islamabad near the Super Market. The complete address of the campus is:

Riphah International University

RISE Campus

#20, Street 39, F-6/1, Islamabad, Pakistan.

3. What degree programs are offered at RISE?

RISE offers MS and PhD in the field of Information Security.

4. Why should one select RISE to get a degree in Information Security?

The Institute has highly qualified faculty members in the relevant fields. The permanent faculty members include 1 PhD from Australia, 2 from UK, and 1 from Japan. The institute has a strong research group working in the field of information security, which publishes its results in reputed journal and conferences on regular basis.

5. Are the degree programs relevant to the industry?

The faculty members at RISE have been providing industry relevant training and consultancy under the Professional Development Center (PDC) of the institute. Over the last two years the Institute has trained over 50 professionals in the field of information security from various organizations including the defense, financial, higher education, telecom and other public and private sector organizations. Riphah International University (RIU) has the honor of bringing the cutting-edge information security trainings of Certified Ethical Hacking, Certified Security Analyst, and Licensed Penetration first time to Pakistan. In addition, the institute offers training in Information Systems Auditing, IT Governance, Information Security Management, to name a few.

6. Are the degree programs accredited?

Yes. All the degree programs are accredited and are run in line with the HEC guidelines. The degree programs are approved by RIU, which is a federally chartered university.

7. What are the MS program objectives?

The overall program objectives are:

- i. To fulfill the growing national need of well trained professionals to work in a wide range of roles to protect information systems in all types of organizations, including research and academia.
- ii. To contribute towards need of protecting national information infrastructure from all kinds of threats.
- iii. To play an effective role in international efforts to make the cyberspace safe, secure and reliable for the national and international communities.

8. Who should enroll in the MS Program?

The program aims to develop core competencies in the fields of computer networks security, application security, and information security management. The students will learn the technical aspects of information security by understanding current threats and vulnerabilities and examining ways of developing effective countermeasures. To cater for wide range of professional and academic interests, students have the option of selecting fifty percent of their course work according to their specific needs.

9. What is the MS Program Structure?

The MS Information Security program is designed to cater for two distinct needs: (1) professionals wishing to pursue a professional career in the field of information security, and (2) candidates wishing to prepare themselves for doctoral level study or embark on a research based career. The students enrolled in MSIS program will have to complete 12 credit hours (typically 4 courses) of core courses. The core courses are carefully designed to cover the breadth of information security theory and practice. The students will also have to complete another 12 credit hours (typically 4 courses) of elective courses. These courses can be selected based on the students' interest and the areas of specialization they are wish to follow. Additionally, the students are required to either complete an industrial project or complete a research thesis of 9 credit hours (typically spanning two semesters).

Category	Credit Hours
Core	12
Electives	12
Thesis/Project	9
Total Credit Hours	33

10. Are there any course exemptions for Information Security professionals?

Yes. Selected professional certifications may be allowed as course work substitutes. The certifications will be evaluated on a case-to-case basis by the relevant admissions committee.

11. Is work experience required to enroll in the MS program?

Yes. A minimum of two years of relevant work experience is required to enroll in the program. The work experience can be substitute by relevant research work. In exceptional circumstances the work experience requirement may be waived on case-to-case basis.

12. What is the MS fee structure?

The following is the current fee structure of the MS program.

Fee	MS-IS	PhD
Admission Fee (One Time)	3,000	3,000
Registration Fee (One Time)	2,000	2,000
Tuition Fee (per Credit Hour)	3,850	3,850
Enrollment Fee (per Credit Hour)	605	605
Exam Fee (per Credit Hour)	850	850

The typical payment schedule is provided below for convenience.

1. New admission: Rs. 52,845
2. 2nd Semester onwards (based on 9 credit hours): Rs. 47,745

13. Are there any scholarships available at RISE?

Yes. The following scholarships are available at RISE for Fall 2012.

1. 3 Scholarships PhD (Information Security) with 100% Fee Exemption

All selected candidates are expected to enroll as full-time PhD scholars. The scholars are not allowed to work anywhere during the course of the scholarship. A minimum CGPA of 3.2 has to be maintained to retain the scholarship along with satisfactory progress report by the supervisor is required. The time duration of the scholarship is three years. Other terms and conditions are also applicable.

2. 2 Scholarships MS (Information Security) with 100% Fee Exemption

All selected candidates are expected to enroll as full-time PhD scholars. The scholars are not allowed to work anywhere during the course of the scholarship. A minimum CGPA of 3.2 has to be maintained to retain the scholarship along with satisfactory progress report by the supervisor is required. The time duration of the scholarship is two years. Other terms and conditions are also applicable.

3. Talent Scholarships (MS and PhD)

The following fee waivers are applicable to all programs offered by RISE.

- 100% Tuition fee waiver for students with 80% marks or 3.9 / 4 CGPA in previous degree
- 75% Tuition fee waiver for students with 75% marks or 3.75 / 4 CGPA in previous degree
- 65% Tuition fee waiver for students with 70% marks or 3.5 / 4 CGPA in previous degree

14. Can I apply online for MS Information Security Program?

Yes. You can apply through our website [<http://www.riphah.edu.pk>].

15. Why study at Riphah International University?

Riphah International University is a federally chartered university established in 2002. Faculties of RIU are Faculty of Computing, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Management Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities and Department of Basic

Sciences which together are offering more than 45 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs. The salient features of the university are listed below:

1. RIU is ranked 6th by the HEC in General Medium Category.
2. RIU's Quality Enhancement Cell is ranked number 1 by the HEC.
3. RIU is ranked as "W" category university.
4. RIU has multiple campuses in across Pakistan and is one of the few universities to have international presence.
5. RIU has affiliations and collaborations with over 30 international organizations across the world.
6. RIU has 27 Professors, 26 Associate Professors, 100 Assistant Professors, and 118 Lectures.
7. RIU has 2,580 undergraduate, 483 postgraduate, and 12 PhD students.
8. RIU has more than 6,000 alumni.
9. RIU has more than 100,000 books and 10,000 online journal in its libraries.
10. Riphah International University is one of the leading private sector universities which is eligible for public funding. Details of funding for the year 2010-2011 is appended below with approximation:

HEC Grants Received and Disbursed	= over Rs. 10,000,000
Trainings/Seminars/Conferences Organized	= over Rs. 9,850,000
Financial Assistance Provided to the Students	= over Rs. 7,700,000

16. How can I get more information about the program and the university?

You can contact the Faculty of Computing, Coordination Office at the following address:

Mr. Muhammad Babar Tiwana
Program Coordinator,
Faculty of Computing,
Email: muhammad.babar@riphah.edu.pk
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